

Remarks

It is believed that the claims as amended are patentable over the relevant prior art.

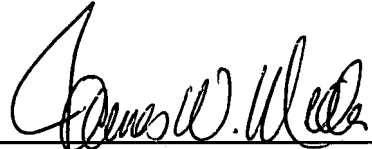
Claim 20, directed to a vehicle generally rather than to a turf maintenance vehicle or mower, has been amended similarly to various claims (e.g. claim 15) in U.S. patent 5,533,325 issued on the parent application. Likewise, Claim 21, directed to a vehicle generally rather than to a turf maintenance vehicle or mower, has been amended similarly to various claims (e.g. claim 24) in U.S. patent 5,533,325 issued on the parent application.

This divisional application was filed pursuant to a restriction requirement to protect the drive system of this invention in vehicles generally as opposed to the specific types of vehicles covered in the parent application. As the claims now in this application clearly set forth the invention in a manner found to be allowable in the parent application, these additional claims should also be allowable in this application.

It is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and sent to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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Certificate under 37 C.F.R. 1.8. I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment and all papers described in or accompanying this document are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 9, 1996.

